

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W
-----011241 090490 /13-12

O 011145Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5535
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

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DEPT FOR AF/C

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AO US
SUBJ: NETO CHARGES ATTACK AGAINST ANGOLA IN PREPARATION

REF: BRENNAN/ARENALES TELECON FEBRUARY 28

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED COPY OF CABLED REPORT OF
CONFERENCE HELD ON SUBJECT IN LUANDA FEBRUARY 24.
INFORMAL TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO INVITED THE DIPLOMATIC
CORPS AT NOON FEBRUARY 24 TO COMMUNICATE TO THEM
INFORMATION THAT HIS COUNTRY HOLDS CONCERNING AN
ATTACK IN PREPARATION AGAINST ANGOLA FOR SEPTEMBER/
OCTOBER 1977 ENTITLED "OPERATION COBRA - 1977," AND
KNOWN UNDER OTHER NAMES AS WELL, FOR EXAMPLE IN
EUROPE IT WILL BE CALLED "OPERATION NATAL EM ANGOLA."
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATURE OF THIS COMMUNICATION
LEADS US TO FORWARD A LENGTHY RESUME.

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THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE:

A. ON ITS SOUTHERN BORDER, ANGOLA IS UNDERGOING
LOST DAILY INVASIONS FROM NAMIBIA, LAUNCHED BY
SOUTH AFRICA, THE ENEMY OF ALL AFRICA WHO IS ATTEMPTING
TO BREAK THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN ANGOLA AND SWAPO.

B. ON ITS NORTHERN FRONTIER, ANGOLA ENJOYS EXCELLENT RELATIONS OF COOPERATION WITH THE CONGO, BUT NOT WITH ZAIRE. PRESIDENT NETO INDICATED THAT THE MEETING AT BRAZZAVILLE LAST YEAR WAS FOUNDED ON THE SINCERITY OF A YOUNG NATION EMERGING FROM WAR AND SEEKING A PEACE THAT WOULD PERMIT NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION. AFTER THE BRAZZAVILLE MEETING, PUPPET CONGRESSES WERE HELD IN THE ZAIRIAN CAPITAL. WE HAD MEETINGS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MIXED COMMISSION DESIGNED TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS OF OUR RELATIONS. THIS COMMISSION WAS INTENDED, INTER ALIA, TO ARRANGE FOR THE RESTITUTION OF ANGOLAN PROPERTIES TAKEN FROM ANGOLA BY THE ZAIRIAN AND PUPPET ARMY.

C. THE PROPERTIES CITED IN DETAIL BY THE PRESIDENT ARE PRINCIPALLY AIRCRAFT (PLURAL), WHOSE CHARACTERISTICS, CREW (SINGULAR) AND DATE OF THEFT ARE GIVEN IN THE DECLARATION, AS WELL AS 15,000 HEADS OF CATTLE, TONS OF COFFEE AND MILLIONS OF ESCUDOS. IN ADDITION, THE PRESIDENT INDICATED THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE WAR WERE SUCH THAT ANGOLA LIKewise HELD CERTAIN GOODS BELONGING TO ZAIRE, SUCH AS MANGANESE ORE, COPPER, TANK CARS, AND FISHING BOATS.

D. MAJOR MONSTRO IMMORTAL, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE FAPLA GENERAL STAFF, THEN LOCATED ON A MAP AND GAVE THE NAMES OF THE FOLLOWING 18 MILITARY BASES LOCATED IN ZAIRE AND CABINDA AND USED FOR ATTACKS AGAINST ANGOLA: BASES OF MATADI, KAMUNA, LUANDO, SONGOLOLO, KUIZI, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOMBO YANGA, LUALI, KAY-KAZABE, KAIKU-DINGE, VATA-UKIDI, TSHELA, KINKULA, KASANGO-LUNDA, TEMBO-ALUNA, KIZAMBA, TSCHCAPA, KINKUZU AND KAIREMBA (FNLA DETACHMENT). TAKING THE FLOOR AGAIN, THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT CERTAIN BASES WERE MIXED PUPPET AND ZAIRIAN ARMY BASES. SUCH WAS THE CASE AT TSHELA IN EASTERN CABINA PROVINCE AND THE BASE AT MATADI.

E. THE CHIEF OF STATE THEN INDICATED THAT AFTER ANGOLA HAD BECOME AWARE OF ALL THESE FACTS, IT HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION OF A MILITARY OPERATION IN PREPARATION WHICH WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY ELEMENTS COMPOSED OF THE FNLA/FLEC/ELP AND MERCENARIES, AND WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977. THIS OPERATION WOULD BE STARTED IN CABINDA PRVINCE AND LATER ADVANCE TOWARD THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY (TERRITOIRE).

F. THE PRESIDENT INDICATED THAT THOSE IN CHARGE OF THIS OPERATION HAD ALREADY BEEN DESIGNATED, AND CITED

CERTAIN OF THEM, NAMELY:

IN CHARGE OF MILITARY SERVICE OPERATIONS FOR THE
ATTACK ON CABINDA: COLONEL MUTOMO PIERRE, GENERAL
HEADQUARTERS TECHNICIAN, TRAINED AT ST. CYR AND FORT
BRAY (SIC: BRAGG?);

COLONEL MAIKE (SIC) BROWN (USA) NOW IN AFRICA WITH
A GROUP OF THIRTY MEN;

COLONEL JOHNSON (USA) IN 1966/1967 A MAJOR, AND
COMMANDING AMERICAN GREEN BERET GUERILLAS IN BOLIVIA;

COLONEL WILLIAM TOMPSON, IN CHARGE OF THE 82ND.
AIRBORNE DIVISION CONSISTING OF 1200 MEN; OTHERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR RECONNAISSANCE, MILITARY ADMINISTRATION,
LOGISTICS, NAVAL PROTECTION, AND EMPLOYMENT OF AIR FORCES.
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NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /073 W
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O 011145Z MAR 77
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G. THE PRESIDENT INFORMED THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS THAT
THIS OPERATION WAS PLANNED TO LIQUIDATE THE RPA,

AND TOOK OTHER NAMES IN EUROPE, SUCH AS "OPERATION NATAL EM ANGOLA." IN CONCLUDING THE CHIEF OF STATE SAID THAT IT IS A FACT THAT INFILTRATIONS ARE BEING MADE OVER THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BORDERS, THAT THERE IS CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT PUPPETS ARE INVADING TO CAUSE MATERIAL LOSSES, TO INSTIGATE MASSACRES AMONG THE POPULATION, AND CONSEQUENTLY TO BLOCK ANGOLAN DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE ISSUING, HE SAID, THIS FIRST COMMUNICATION, THIS FIRST WARNING, (BUT) WE CAN GO EVEN FARTHER IN SEEKING INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION, SUCH AS THE OAU, THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL, ALL THE MORE SO WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA, SINCE THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECREED THAT ANGOLA SHOULD BE INDEMNIFIED FOR THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY SOUTH AFRICA. HE THEN REAFFIRMED HIS COUNTRY'S DETERMINATION TO LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY WITH ITS NEIGHBORS AND ALL COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, EACH UNDER ITS OWN INDEPENDENT SYSTEM. WE ARE SENDING THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE DECLARATION. UNQUOTE
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2. MISSION HAS BEEN PROMISED TEXT WHEN RECEIVED AND WILL TRANSMIT TO ADDRESSEES IF DESIRED.CATTO

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Message Attributes

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